

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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6 AUGUST 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. North Vietnam

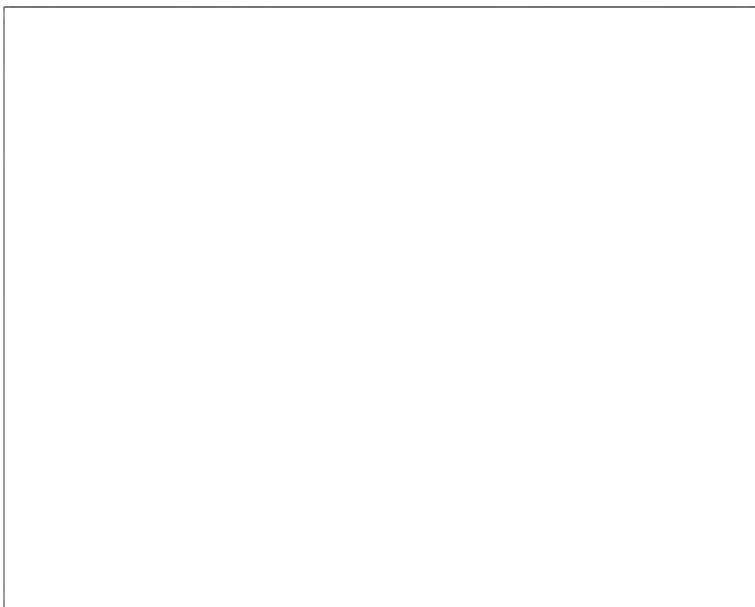
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c. Hanoi has told its people by radio of the strike but did not reveal that extensive damage was inflicted nor did it specifically threaten retaliation against the US and its allies. The broadcast seemed aimed at spurring patriotism and military fervor among the people.

d. Peiping's first direct commentary, after a delay of three days, was a reiteration of earlier warnings that the Chinese could not "sit idly by." It said that "aggression by the US against the DRV means aggression against China," but did not threaten any retaliation.

(Cont'd)

e. Moscow's only extensive commentary thus far is a mildly worded TASS statement warning that "further rash steps or provocations" could result in a dangerous and broad conflict.



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2. North Vietnam - US

a. Reaction to the strike in non-Communist countries has ranged from full support by most pro-Western nations to condemnation by some neutralist countries.

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b. In London, Butler backed the right of US warships to defend themselves against "unprovoked aggression" in international waters. French Government officials have withheld comment on the crisis, but the French UN ambassador has backed Moscow's call for North Vietnam's participation in Security Council discussions of the action. De Gaulle has told his foreign minister to pull together the "true facts."

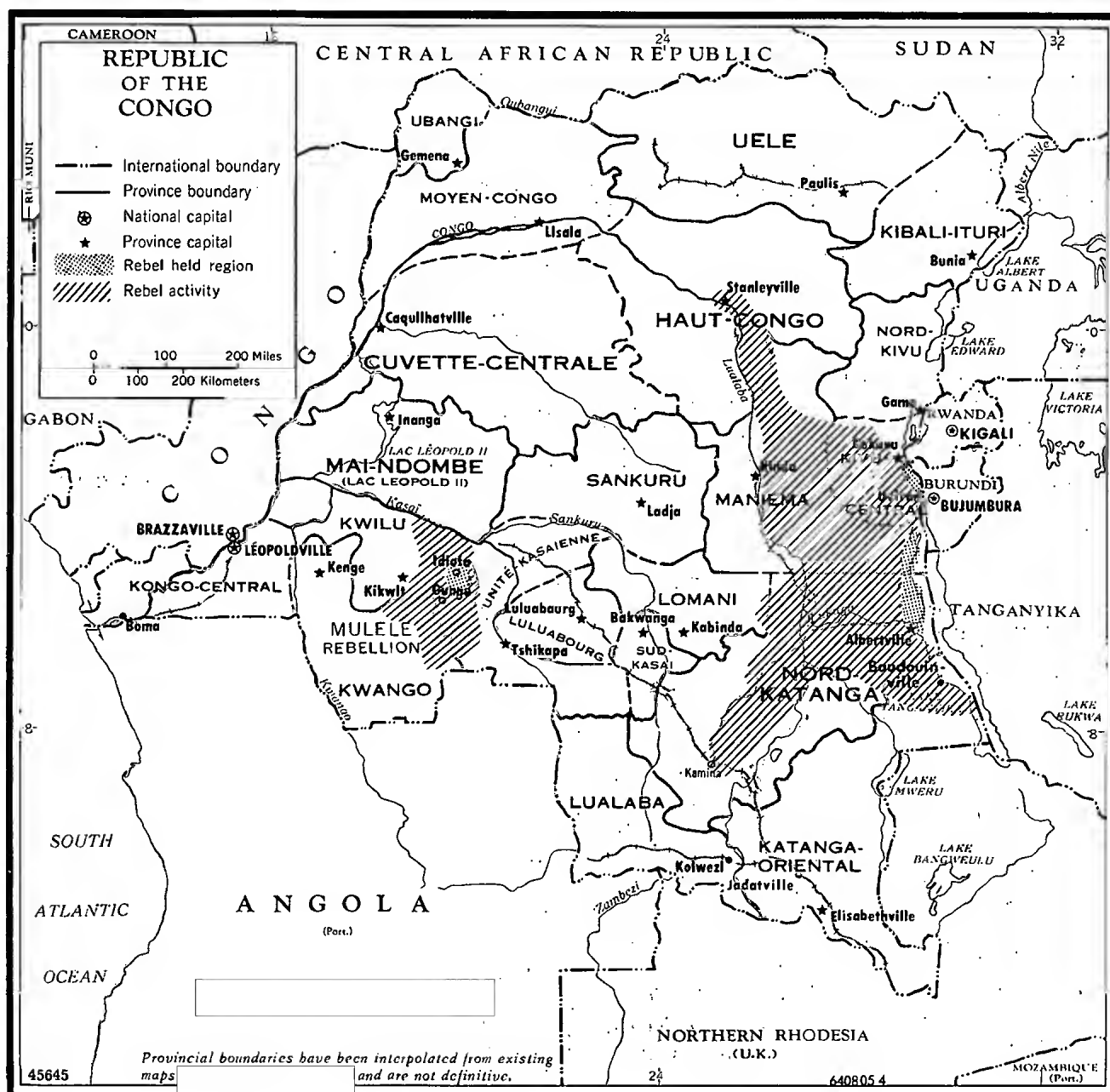
c. Bonn has pledged full support to the US but has expressed concern. Rome has not yet spoken officially but Premier Moro reportedly is considering issuing a statement today backing the US. In other European capitals reaction has been sympathetic and understanding.

d. In the Far East, many countries have firmly supported the US measures. The Japanese Government showed concern but called the response inevitable. There has been no official reaction from Cambodia, Burma, or Indonesia

Indian officials have indicated great concern.

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e. Most African nations have been noncommittal. Dahomey, Sudan, Nigeria, and Nairobi have indicated an understanding and South Africa has supported the action. Ghana's press lashed out at US "imperialism" and condemned the American military presence in Southeast Asia. Algerian students, trying to demonstrate before the US Embassy, were dispersed by police.

f. We have no reports of reactions in the Middle East and in Latin America the only official reactions--from Venezuela and the Dominican Republic--have been approving and sympathetic.

3. Congo

a. The rebels apparently took over Stanleyville yesterday and it may soon be declared the seat of an independent insurgent state. The consequences will be far reaching.

b. Bukavu is likely to fall next and National Army units in eastern Congo will probably collapse. These units include three of the army's five better battalions.

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c. This would open the way for Tutsi refugees in the Bukavu area, who are well equipped with arms taken from the National Army, to invade Rwanda. Rwandan Army units, expecting an attack, are reported to be mustering along the border.

d. Tshombé is reported planning to seek more help from outside. He may ask Belgium to furnish additional military advisors to supplement his white mercenaries as leaders of the gendarmes. Belgium apparently will go along with this but would not, for the present at least, furnish troops.

e. Tshombé may also look to Southern Rhodesia and South Africa for help. both countries have offered assistance.

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f. The rebels in the Congo, divided and weak, have been successful chiefly because of ineffective opposition. Any insurgent regime set up in Stanleyville would have its own serious problems in controlling either its territory or its followers.

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g. The fall of Stanleyville has put five persons in the US Consulate there in jeopardy. The ambassador in Leopoldville is looking for ways to evacuate them, including the use of a US Marine helicopter team.

4. Cyprus

a. Athens may now think that time is running against Greece as well as Turkey on the Cyprus issue.

b. Greek officials are disturbed by Makarios' leftward drift. They also see their influence waning in Cyprus.

c. They are reportedly irate over leaks by Makarios, reasoning apparently that the leaks imply a Greek sell-out of the Greek Cypriots and thus undercutting chances for enosis.

d. Enosis is undoubtedly what the Greeks favor as a solution to the question, but they don't seem willing to accede to concessions the Turks would probably insist on in exchange.

e. Grivas, newly named CINC of the Greek Cypriot forces, has flown to Athens to talk with Greek leaders. They will probably discuss what to do about Makarios.

NOTES

- A. Laos Ambassador Unger has reported an "encouraging trend" toward reasonableness and calmness among the principals concerned in the coup and countercoup plotting in Vientiane. Kouprasith, Siho, Phoumi and other generals met yesterday to air their views and reached a modus vivendi for the time being at least.

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- C. Pakistan-India High-level talks between Pakistan and India may be delayed by the sudden illness of the Pakistani home minister. He was slated to meet with his Indian counterpart before the end of August to lay the groundwork for a meeting between Shastri and Ayub. Bhutto may try to keep the dialogue going by inviting the new Indian external affairs minister to Pakistan.
- D. Cuba-OAS Of the four Latin American countries still maintaining relations with Havana, none is likely soon to break relations as called for by the OAS resolution. Bolivia's President has decided his country would not be first; Mexico has openly said it would not break; Chile will make no move before elections in September; and Uruguay is formally studying the case.

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E. Honduras Communists and some dissident Liberal Party members are apparently trying to mount a guerrilla campaign in the north coastal region. Some of them [] have been trained in Cuba and Mexico. The rebels do not pose a threat to the government at present but they could become troublesome if they get well entrenched.

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